

RURAL DISTRICT OF SEISDON  
(STAFFORDSHIRE)

III



ANNUAL REPORTS  
OF THE  
Medical Officer of Health  
AND  
Chief Public Health Inspector  
FOR THE YEAR

1957

III



SEISDON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT - M.O.H., 1957

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CORRECTIONS

Page 6, lines 22, 23 and 24:-

After the figures 8981, 9477, 10,396, there should be added in each case the words "June estimate".

Page 15, the 6th line from the bottom of the page should read "PERI-NATAL MORTALITY RATE".

Page 30, 1st line: "Section G" should be inserted.

2. 10. 58.



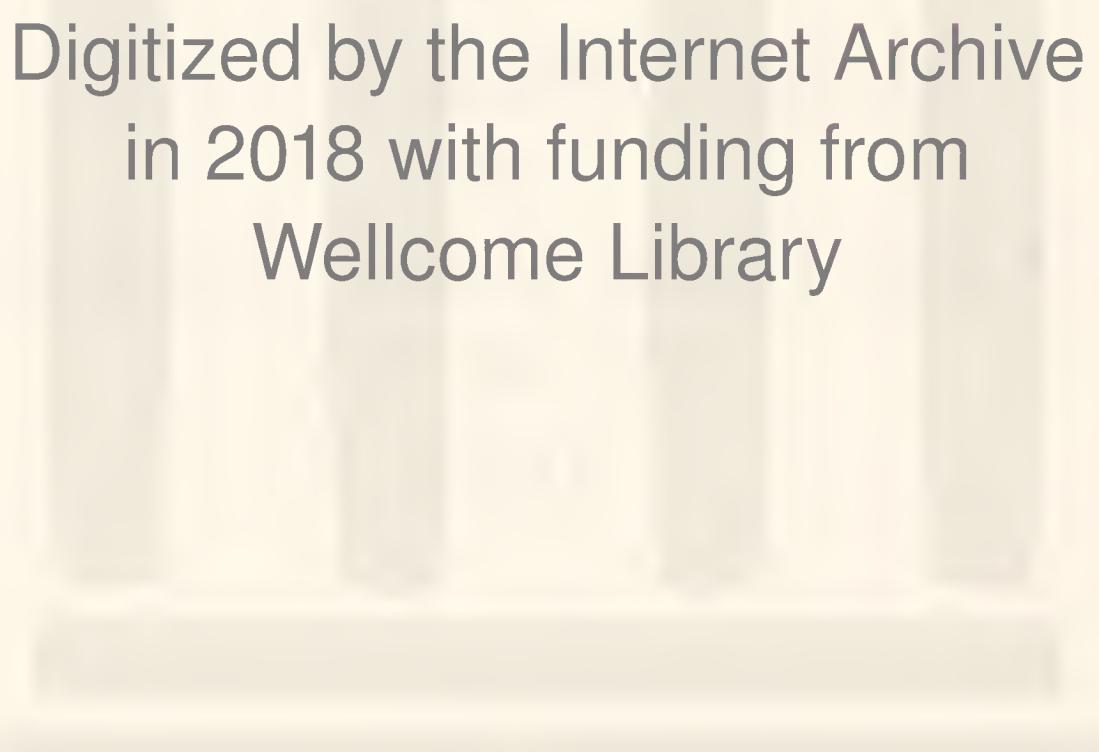
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# **SEISDON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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## **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE (December, 1957)**

*Chairman:*

**COUNCILLOR R. B. WILLIAMS**

*Vice-Chairman:*

**COUNCILLOR H. E. WEAVER**

**COUNCILLORS C. P. BOLLAND**

**J. W. BROADBENT, C.C.**

**MRS. C. DORE**

**D. FREEMAN**

**MRS. C. GOULD**

**P. N. C. HEATH**

**A. E. HUGHES**

**G. A. JEFFRIES**

**J. F. JORDAN**

**C. KEMP**

**MISS E. E. LAURIE**

**A. E. MASSEY**

**G. W. MUNDAY**

**H. G. PORTEOUS**

**T. PREECE**

**G. ROBERTS**

**K. C. TIPPING**

**W. K. WRIGLEY**

**MRS. M. J. FLETCHER, J.P. (Chairman of the Council)**

**H. C. EDWARDS (Vice-Chairman of the Council)**

# SEISDON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

## PUBLIC HEALTH PERSONNEL

Name	Qualifications	Duties
<i>Medical Officer of Health:</i>		
ALAN R. KENNEDY, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.		(1) Medical Officer of Health (Seisdon R.D.C.) for 5/11ths of the week (as from April 1st, 1958);  (2) Assistant County M.O. (M. & C.W.), School M.O., and general duties, (Staffordshire County Council) for 6/11ths of the week (as from April 1st, 1958).
<i>Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent:</i>		
G. V. R. LEE	Cert. R.S.I. Cert. Meat and Food Inspection	Resigned as from 3rd April, 1957.
E. H. ROBERTS	Cert. R.S.I. Cert. Meat and Food Inspection	Appointed as from 17th June, 1957.
<i>Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:</i>		
H. F. ROBINSON	Cert. R.S.I. Cert. Meat and Food Inspection	Promoted as from 17th June, 1957.
<i>Additional Public Health Inspector:</i>		
E. F. KELLY	Cert. R.S.I. Cert. Meat and Food Inspection	Appointed as from 16th October, 1957.
(Duties of P.H.I's. :—Statutory Duties prescribed by Sanitary Officers' Regulations; Public Cleansing; Petroleum and Shops Acts).		
<i>Administrative Assistant:</i>		
D. NALLY		
<i>Clerk:</i>		
MISS P. NORTH		

## **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1957**

*To the Chairman and Members of the Seisdon Rural District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for 1957.

This Report is drawn up in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health in their Circular of January, 1958. The Report follows the same general lines as the previous year with special paragraphs in the appropriate section, on the problems which have particularly concerned your Public Health Committee in the year. Comparative tables on statistics are given in the related Sections of the Report.

The Report deals with Public Health subjects in **Sections** as follows :—

- A** Statistics affecting the Rural District.
- B** General Provision of Health Services in the Rural District.
- C** Sanitary accommodation of the Rural District.
- D** Housing in the Rural District.
- E** Inspection and supervision of food.
- F** Prevalence of, and control over, infectious diseases.
- G** Tuberculosis.
- H** Other matters.

and it concludes with the Report of your Chief Public Health Inspector on those matters which fall within his sphere of activities.

The health of the Rural District remains very good. When all the statistics have been calculated and tabled, it becomes obvious that the Rural District is one of the more desirable places of England and Wales in which to reside. The situation of the Rural District on the windward side of the Black Country no doubt contributes to this. Most of the smoke emerging from the Black Country makes its exit in a north easterly direction.

Once again there have been no cases of Diphtheria in the Rural District and it should be noted that the last case occurred in 1950.

The death rate of the Rural District has been very favourable, giving a rate which is 9.5% better than that for England and Wales as a whole. Live births exceeded total deaths by 383.

In 1956 together with at least three other Local Authorities of the Rural Communities we had a disappointingly high Infantile Mortality Rate. In contrast in 1957 the I.M.R. was the best figure ever attained by the Rural District. Only five infants died in the first year of life, and four of these five occurred in the first week of life owing to the infant being born prematurely. In five out of the last six years the I.M.R. of the Rural District has been well above the average for England and Wales. In 1957 105 more births occurred in the Rural District than occurred in 1956, and there was a 50% increase on the number of births occurring in 1954.

I record here the table showing the growth of the Rural District which is occurring by reason of both the Local Authority and private "Overspill" building within the Rural District.

The Registrar General's figures for population—Seisdon R.D.C.		Total Number of Births in the year	Number of houses in Seisdon (1st April)
June, 1951	..	22,322	1951      343
June, 1952	..	22,430	1952      335
June, 1953	..	23,630	1953      364
June, 1954	..	24,370	1954      413
June, 1955	..	26,220	1955      439
June, 1956	..	28,070	1956      511
June, 1957	..	30,270	1957      616
June, 1958	..	—	—      —
			10,396

In England and Wales in 1957 of all males who died from cancer, 33% of these deaths were due to cancer of the lung. The statistics from the Rural District are in accordance with this 33%. Of females 6% of all cancer deaths in England and Wales were due to cancer of the lung.

I include the statistics for deaths from cancer of the lung in the Rural District in recent years.

	Males	Females	Total
1951	..	5	2      7
1952	..	5	0      5
1953	..	3	0      3
1954	..	6	4      10
1955	..	8	1      9
1956	..	13	0      13
1957	..	8	2      10

Of the four deaths of Seisdon residents by motor vehicle accidents, three of these involved a motor cycle or motor scooter, i.e. 75%. In 1956 the figure was 80%.

Kinver village shows a relatively higher percentage of persons over 60 years of age residing there than does the rest of the Rural District. There are an average of 56 births per year in Kinver including both home and hospital confinements. This would give a child population of approximately 840 under 15 years old out of a total estimated population of Kinver of 5,950. The growth of this parish to a major size is in effect limited by the "green belt" which surrounds it closely.

In relation to new water supplies I am most firmly of the opinion that where public monies are provided for future water supplies, then these future schemes shall be efficient, safe and pure. In regard to our Rural District I would not accept a lesser standard of purity for our Rural District than the excellent standard which prevails for example in Kinver, or in Wombourne or in Wrottesley. One would require the standards of purity of water going into circulation to be equal to those laid down by the Ministry of Health. Logically also one must require the high standard of purity to be uniform in all parts of the Rural District, and to be maintained at that proper level. This standard in effect demands a chlorinated, filtered orthodox system. These considerations are important in relation to Improvement Grants.

We have tested soft water reserve tanks at houses where such soft water is collected from the roof rain water. Even a protected tank suffers considerable pollution and its water is to be regarded as totally unsafe for drinking purposes.

I mention here the acreage of Sewage Farms within our Rural District devoted to land irrigation of sewage, or sewage sludge.

Brierley Hill	..	..	..	250 acres
Wolverhampton (2)	..	..	..	279 acres
Stourbridge	..	..	..	295 acres
Upper Stour Valley	..	..	..	639 acres
Dudley	..	..	..	1,700 acres
				3,163 acres
i.e., approx. 5 square miles.				

It is very satisfactory to know that one of these Authorities is now planning to replace their Sewage Farm by a modern orthodox Sewage Works. With the increasing use of radio-active materials by industry and hospitals, and their possible discharge into Sewage after use, the time is not far distant when industrial firms and hospitals using radio-active materials should be required to register themselves as users with their Local Authority. Any deleterious effect of radio-active materials on sewage farms or crops could then be readily traced back by the registering Local Authority to the source.

The statistics of Tuberculosis show a more favourable position than that for England and Wales as a whole, and more favourable also than Staffordshire. In general they show support for the tendencies of peak years of death in the males to be age 65-69, and for the highest incidence of newly arising cases in the female to be in the year groups 20-24 years.

Transfers of cases of Tuberculosis into the R.D.C. by both Local Authority and Private Overspill housing, continue to provide more registered lung cases than cases which newly arise in residents of the Rural District Council.

There were five cases of Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis) in the Rural District in 1957, all of them in boys. Of these, four were severe cases and one of the cases died after three days illness. In previous years the Rural District had only had one or two cases each year and this experience of 1957 is indicative of the generally increased incidence of Poliomyelitis in England and Wales. An important step was taken in the prevention of Poliomyelitis by the introduction of vaccination. There has been a good response and at the time of writing (July, 1958), there has been no case in the Rural District during 1958.

In relation to Clinics for Preventive Medical Services it has to be recorded that with a population of about 36,400 we have not one permanent Clinic building within our Rural District. All such services are given from church and chapel halls occupied for the purpose for one or two half days per week. The provision of permanent Clinics is, so it is understood, held up by reason of limited financial allocations.

Conferences were attended as follows:—

Dr. A. R. Kennedy attended the Conference of the Royal Society of Health (Folkstone) 30th April—3rd May, 1957.

Councillor G. Roberts attended the Conference of Institute of Public Cleansing (Torquay) 18th—21st June, 1957.

Councillor R. B. Williams and Mr. H. F. Robinson attended the Conference of Public Health Inspectors Association (Eastbourne) 17th—20th September, 1957.

Mr. E. H. Roberts commenced his appointment as Chief Public Health Inspector on 17th June, 1957.

I take this opportunity of thanking various persons for their co-operation and advice during the past year and record particular appreciation of the members of the Public Health Committee, Mr. A. R. Baskett, Clerk and Chief Financial Officer of the Rural District Council, Mr. F. Bagley, Engineer and Surveyor to the Rural District Council, and Mr. E. H. Roberts, Chief Public Health Inspector to the Rural District Council.

I have the honour to be,  
Your obedient Servant,

July, 1958.

ALAN R. KENNEDY.

# Section A

## STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR 1957

Area: 41,990 acres, i.e., 65 square miles.

### POPULATION

1st June, 1957	Registrar General .. ..	30,270
1st April, 1957	Mr. Robson (Rating Officer)	33,169
	Calculated at 3½ persons per house	
1st April, 1958	Mr. Robson (Rating Officer)	36,288
	Calculated at 3½ persons per house	
The total number of inhabited houses in the Rural District at		
1st April, 1957 .. .. ..	9,071	
1st April, 1958 .. .. ..	10,225	

Number of Council Houses: 2,461 at 31st December, 1957.

Sum represented by a penny rate: 1957/58 £1376.

Rateable Value: £305,715 1957/58.

General Rate: 15/0d., 1957/58.

### VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births:	Male	Female	Total	1957 Eng. & Wales
Total .. .. .. ..	299	317	616	
Legitimate .. .. .. ..	290	311	601	
Illegitimate .. .. .. ..	9	6	15	46 per 1,000 live births
Birth Rate per 1,000 population .. .. ..	..	..	20.3	
Comparability Factor .. .. ..	..	..	0.93	
Standardised Birth Rate .. .. ..	..	..	18.9	16.1

Still Births:	Male	Female	Total	England & Wales
Total .. .. .. ..	2	9	11	
Legitimate .. .. .. ..	2	8	10	
Illegitimate .. .. .. ..	0	1	1	
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Total Births .. ..	..	..	17.9	22.4

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age:	Male	Female	Total	England & Wales		
Total .. .. .. ..	2	2	4			
Legitimate .. .. .. ..	2	2	4			
Illegitimate .. .. .. ..	0	0	0			
Per 1,000 related Live Births ..	15.9 1955	29.3 1956	6.6 1957	17.3 1955	16.9 1956	16.5 1957

Deaths of Infants under one year of age:	Male	Female	Total
Total .. .. .. ..	3	2	5
Legitimate .. .. .. ..	3	2	5
Illegitimate .. .. .. ..	0	0	0

	Seisdon R.D.C.				Average for Staffs. C.C.			England and Wales			
	1954	1955	1956	1957	1953	1954	1955	1954	1955	1956	1957
All Infants per 1,000 live births	16.9	18.2	35.2	8.1	32	29	27	25.5	24.9	23.8	23.0
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births .. ..	14.9	18.8	35.9	8.3	31	28	27				
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	83	Nil	Nil	Nil	49	42	47				

	1954 Eng. & Wales	1955 Eng. & Wales	1956 Eng. & Wales	1957 Eng. & Wales	1956 Seisdon	1957 Seisdon
<b>Deaths (at all ages):</b>						
Total: 233.						
Males: 137.						
Females: 96.						
Death Rate per 1,000 population .. ..					9.52	7.69
Comparability Factor					1.30	1.35
Standardised Death Rate .. ..	11.3	11.7	11.7	11.5	12.38	10.38
Number of Women dying in or in consequence of Child-birth					Nil	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) .. ..	2,056 per million		2,101 per million	50	45	
Including—						
Deaths from Carcinoma (Cancer) of the Lung—Males ..	693 per million	726 per million	759 per million	463 per million	8 cases	
Deaths from Carcinoma (Cancer) of the Lung—Females ..	106 per million	111 per million	116 per million	Nil	2 cases	
Deaths from Measles (all ages) .. ..					Nil	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ..					Nil	Nil
Deaths from Enteritis and Diarrhoea (under 2 years old) ..					Nil	Nil
Deaths from Motor Vehicle Accidents (Seisdon residents) ..					5	4
Deaths from Other Accidents .. ..					5	5
Live births exceeded total deaths by ..					243	383

## CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1957

					<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..	..	..	2	1
Tuberculosis, other	..	..	..	..	—	—
Syphilitic disease	..	..	..	..	3	—
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	—	—
Whooping cough	..	..	..	..	—	—
Meningococcal infections	..	..	..	..	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	1	—
Measles	..	..	..	..	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	..	..	..	..	1	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach (cancer)	..	..	..	..	3	4
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus (cancer)	..	..	..	..	8	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast (cancer)	..	..	..	..	—	2
Malignant neoplasm, uterus (cancer)	..	..	..	..	—	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms (cancer)	..	..	..	..	14	11
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	..	..	..	..	—	1
Diabetes	..	..	..	..	—	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	..	..	..	..	10	11
Coronary disease, angina	..	..	..	..	25	19
Hypertension with heart disease	..	..	..	..	3	1
Other heart disease	..	..	..	..	14	17
Other circulatory disease	..	..	..	..	4	1
Influenza	..	..	..	..	2	—
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	7	3
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	8	7
Other diseases of respiratory system	..	..	..	..	1	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..	..	..	..	1	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	..	..	..	..	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	..	..	..	..	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	..	..	..	..	3	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	..	..	..	—	—
Congenital malformations	..	..	..	..	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..	..	..	..	19	8
Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	..	..	3	1
All other accidents	..	..	..	..	2	3
Suicide	..	..	..	..	2	—
Homicide and operations of war	..	..	..	..	—	—
					<hr/> 137	<hr/> 96
					<hr/> —	<hr/> —

## BIRTH RATES

Year	SEISDON		England and Wales
	No. of Births	Birth Rate	Birth Rate
1947	400	19.2	20.5
1948	358	16.4	17.9
1949	349	15.9	16.7
1950	339	15.5	15.8
1951	343	15.4	15.5
1952	335	14.9	15.3
1953	364	15.4	15.5
1954	413	17.4	15.2
1955	439	17.2	15.0
1956	511	17.11	15.7
1957	616	18.9	16.1

## DEATH RATES

Year	SEISDON			England and Wales
	No. of Deaths	Death Rate	Standardised Death Rate	Death Rate
1948	196	9.0		10.8
1949	212	10.4		11.7
1950	202	9.0		11.6
1951	254	11.4		12.5
1952	200	9.6		11.3
1953	226	9.6	10.3	11.4
1954	217	8.9	9.4	11.3
1955	252	9.6	10.2	11.7
1956	268	9.5	12.38	11.7
1957	233	7.7	10.38	11.5

**LOCALITY-DISTRIBUTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

(excluding Tuberculosis) notified in 1957

Disease	TOTAL	Bobbington	Codsall	Envile	Himley	Kinver	Lower Penn	Pattingham	Patsyhill	Seisdon and Trysull	Swindon	Wombourne	Wrottesley
Scarlet Fever .. ..	21	-	10	1	-	2	1	1	-	1	1	3	1
Whooping Cough .. ..	104	-	17	-	-	1	4	2	-	11	-	14	55
Measles .. ..	410	1	36	1	6	87	17	8	1	5	12	147	89
Acute Pneumonia .. ..	25	-	10	-	-	1	-	4	-	-	-	-	5
Poliomyelitis Paralytic .. ..	3	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Poliomyelitis, non-paralytic .. ..	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Food Poisoning .. ..	13	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Meningococcal Infection .. ..	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .. ..	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia .. ..	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Erysipelas .. ..	3	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-

**AGE-GROUPS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (excluding Tuberculosis) notified in 1957**

Disease	Total all Ages	At all ages		Un- der 1 year	1 to 2 yrs.	2 to 3 yrs.	3 to 4 yrs.	4 to 5 yrs.	5 to 10 yrs.	10 to 15 yrs.	15 to 25 yrs.	25 to 45 yrs.	45 to 65 yrs.	65 to 75 yrs.	75 to 85 yrs.	85 and over
	M	F														
Scarlet Fever .. ..	21	13	8	-	1	1	3	3	12	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough .. ..	104	52	52	5	10	14	10	17	46	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Measles .. .. ..	410	204	206	5	35	43	61	67	192	5	1	1	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia .. .. ..	25	11	14	2	1	1	1	1	-	1	3	6	7	1	-	-
Polio-myelitis Paralytic ..	3	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polio-myelitis Non-Paralytic ..	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning .. ..	13	7	6	-	1	-	-	-	10	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection ..	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia .. ..	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas .. .. ..	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-

## INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1957

Nett Deaths from causes stated at various ages under one year of age:

Cause of Death		Under 1 week	1 to 2 weeks	2 to 3 weeks	3 to 4 weeks	Total under one month	1 to 3 months	3 to 6 months	6 to 9 months	9 to 12 months	Total Deaths under one year
Prematurity .. ..	4	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	4
Werdnig Hoffmans disease .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
TOTALS .. ..	4	—	—	—	—	4	—	1	—	—	5

## INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE

Year	SEISDON			England and Wales Rate per 1,000 Births
	Births	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Births	
1946	367	11	30.0	43
1947	400	9	22.5	41
1948	358	11	32.5	34
1949	349	13	37.6	32
1950	339	7	20.6	29
1951	343	9	26.2	30
1952	335	4	11.9	28
1953	364	7	19.2	26.8
1954	413	7	16.9	25.5
1955	439	8	18.2	24.9
1956	511	18	35.2	23.8
1957	616	5	8.1	23.0

## PRE-NATAL MORTALITY RATE

(i.e., stillbirths and deaths of infants under one week of age per 1,000 total live births and stillbirths).

	England and Wales	Seisdon R.D.
1956 .. ..	36.9	36.6
1957 .. ..	36.2	24

## **Section B**

### **GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT**

The Medical Officer of Health holds office in virtue of a joint appointment by Staffordshire County Council and Seisdon Rural District Council, apportionment of his time and services to the Rural District being based on the population.

The Public Health Inspectors are all three full-time officers, and are fully qualified Meat and Food Inspectors. The Chief Public Health Inspector is also the Cleansing Superintendent.

In accordance with Part III of the National Health Service Act, Health Services are provided by the Local Health Authority, namely the Staffordshire County Council, the organisation and administration being in the hands of the County Medical Officer of Health. Certain responsibilities are delegated to the "Area Health Authority" and the "Area Medical Officer". In the Seisdon Rural District Council, the No. 7 Area Health Authority at Brierley Hill is immediately responsible for and administers:—

- (a) Health Centres.
- (b) Care of Mothers and Young Children.
- (c) Midwifery.
- (d) Health Visiting.
- (e) Home Nursing.
- (f) Vaccination and Immunisation.
- (g) Ambulance Service.
- (h) Prevention of illness, care and after care.
- (i) Domestic Help.

The Health Visitors, four in number, are as stated, under the immediate direction of the Area Health Authority.

#### **Hospitals:**

As regards the General Hospital and Specialist Services, the administration is vested in the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board.

The Hospitals and Out-patient Departments available, and easily accessible to your District are those of Stourbridge, Wordsley, Dudley, Wolverhampton and Birmingham. An Orthopaedic Convalescent Hospital, being part of Wolverhampton Royal Hospital, is situated at Patshull within the Rural District.

## **Infectious Diseases:**

The Infectious Diseases Hospitals are under the control of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board. Cases go to Moxley Hospital, or to Stallings Lane Hospital, Kingswinford, or to the Isolation Hospital, Wolverhampton, or occasionally to Little Bromwich Isolation Hospital, Birmingham.

## **Ambulance Service:**

This Service is provided by the Staffordshire County Council from stations at Kingswinford and Tettenhall.

## **Tuberculosis:**

Dispensaries are situated at Wolverhampton and Dudley and various Sanatoria are available. Prestwood, Kinver and Himley Sanatoria are situated within the Rural District.

## **Maternity Cases are provided for by:**

- (a) New Cross Hospital.
- (b) Wordsley Hospital.
- (c) Rosemary Ednam Maternity Home, Dudley.
- (d) Birmingham Hospitals.

## **Laboratory Facilities:**

Pathological and bacteriological examinations are made by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Stafford. Speedy delivery to the Laboratory of any pathological specimens is ensured by motorcycle transport over the 22 miles from Seisdon to Stafford. Efforts are made to concentrate deliveries on one or two days a week.

## **Clinics:**

School Clinics	Orthopaedic Clinics
Defective Vision Clinics	Dental Clinics
Infant Welfare Clinics	Ante Natal Clinics
Immunisation Clinics	Speech Therapy Clinics

are provided by the Staffs. C.C. at main centres of population in or very near the District, e.g., at Codsall, Wombourne, Kinver, Bobbington, Kingswinford and Brierley Hill.

## **Committees:**

The SEISDON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL Committees which are concerned with matters of Public Health are:

- (1) The Public Health Committee;  
and to a lesser extent
- (2) The Housing Committee;
- (3) The Plans Inspection Committee.

## **Health Education:**

Opportunity has been taken to circulate posters, pamphlets and cards on the subject of Health Education, Diphtheria Immunisation, and Food Hygiene through local agencies such as Schools, Parish Clerks and Clinics. Advertisements in newspapers of facilities for immunisation have been made. Some excellent Photographs on Food Hygiene have been obtained on loan from the Ministry of Health and circulated to all Schools in the Rural District for their temporary use and education of older school children. The Head Teachers of the Schools of our Rural District have very kindly co-operated in the use of these posters and photographs.

## **School Health Service**

This is administered by the County Council directly from Stafford. In recent months the Medical Officer of Health, in relation to his County Council duties has been allocated duties to Schools and Clinics which are situated almost entirely within the Rural District.

## **Section C (I)**

There are estimated to exist in the Rural District:— about 436 Cesspools, being emptied periodically, (39 weekly), and 665 Pan Closets, being emptied weekly.

I am indebted to **Mr. F. Bagley**, A.M.I.C.E., M.I.Mun.E., the Council's Surveyor, for the following report on Sewage Disposal Schemes, Housing, and Water. The Report is dated 7th May, 1958:—

### **SEISDON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL**

The extensions to the Codsall Sewage Disposal Works have now been completed by Thomas Vale Ltd. at a cost of £80,000. These extensions which have been urgently required for several years will now enable the increased flow caused by the rapid development of Codsall and Wrottesley to be dealt with satisfactorily.

The approval of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government has been received to advertise for tender the extensions to the Wombourne Sewage Disposal Works which are also urgently required owing to the rapid development of Wombourne. The Engineers for this scheme Messrs. Willcox, Raikes and Marshall have informed the Council that they will be in a position to advertise for tenders about the end of July.

Consideration is also being given to the preparation of a small Sewage Disposal Scheme for Kingswood and also at Swindon and Enville.

### **WATER**

The Lutley Lane water main extension comprising the laying of 3,100 yards of 3" dia. C.I. main has been completed and it will now be possible to supply outlying farms in the area with a pure and wholesome supply of water. A 3" dia. water main has also been laid to a new Building Estate at Garden Fields, off Stone Lane, Kinver.

It has been necessary to amend the scheme for the provision of water mains at the higher levels for Four Ashes and Six Ashes in the Parishes of Bobbington and Enville, owing to the fact that the Enville Estates have provided a supply to a portion of the area from an existing spring by means of plastic tubing. The revised scheme at an estimated cost of £11,501 has been submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and approval to advertise is awaited.

### **HOUSING**

Council Houses completed during 1957 total 204 of which 58 were for Wolverhampton, this is a considerable reduction on previous years and is due to the difficulties the Council have encountered in the acquisition of sites. In addition 397 houses have been built privately making a total of 601 houses for the year.

Since the commencement of the Wolverhampton Overspill scheme 1,104 dwellings have been handed over to Wolverhampton nominated tenants but a further 442 dwellings remain to be completed in order to complete the programme.

## Section C (II). WATER

The Ministry of Health classify drinking water into:

		<i>Presumptive coliform count for 100 ml.</i>
Class One ..	Highly Satisfactory ..	Less than 1
Class Two ..	Satisfactory ..	1 — 2
Class Three ..	Suspicious ..	3 — 10
Class Four ..	Unsatisfactory ..	(More than 10)

In a year 50% of samples should come into Class 1.

80% of samples should come into Class 1 or 2  
the remaining 20% of samples should not be below Class 3.

Chlorinated piped supplies ought all to come into Class 1. Several of our outlying farms are very definitely in Class 4 in regard to their inferior water supply, and they have to use water of a quality which would never be tolerated in a large town. New water supply schemes to aid such farms have been put to the appropriate Government Department for approval.

The Public Health Department has itself maintained an intensive series of bacteriological tests on the water supplies of the District. In addition the Water Undertakings have taken their own tests.

The water supply of the district, apart from small wells, is mainly provided by the following four water undertakings (reading from north to south of the Rural District):—

- (a) Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking, which supplies the Parishes of Codsall, Wrottesley, Wrottesley (Detached), Pattingham, Lower Penn and part of Wombourne.
- (b) Bilston Corporation Water Undertaking, which supplies the parishes of Trysull, Seisdon, Himley, Swindon and part of Wombourne.
- (c) South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, which supplies Kinver, Enville and Bobbington.
- (d) City of Birmingham Water Department, which supplies the Iverley portion of Kinver.

I am indebted to the respective Water Engineers of the above mentioned Water Authorities for the following reports:—

- (a) **Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking**
  - (1) The water supplied to the parishes concerned in your Rural District has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

(2) The following is a summary of the results of bacteriological examinations of water going into distribution:—

	Number of Samples	Presumptive Coli-Aerogenes per 100 ml.			
		0	1-2	3-10	Over 10
Total number of Bacteriological examination taken	894	876	11	5	2
Percentage of samples taken ..		98.0	1.2	0.6	0.2

Of these 894 samples taken by the Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking in the year, 98.0% were "highly satisfactory". Subsequent to treatment at the works, where necessary, there has been no known contamination of the supply. Including also water which was tested before and during treatment a total of 1,760 water samples were sent for bacteriological examination by the W.C.W.U.

(3) The water supplied is not liable to have plumbosolvent action.  
 (4) The water was treated by the W.C.W.U. at its water works.  
 Chemical analyses were also made of the nine different sources of supply and results were satisfactory.

(b) **South Staffordshire Waterworks Company**

(1) The supply to those parts of the Rural District which are served by the South Staffs. Waterworks Co. has been satisfactory in quality and quantity. It comes from Ashwood and Kinver Pumping Stations.

(2)		Number samples taken	Number entirely free from coliform bacteria
Ashwood raw water ..	111	102	were "highly satisfactory"
Ashwood chlorinated water ..	111	95	were "highly satisfactory"
Kinver chlorinated water ..	51	51	were "highly satisfactory"
Kinver Reservoir .. ..	51	50	were "highly satisfactory"

Chlorination is practised as a precautionary measure at both of the supplying stations. Chemical examinations were done on

27 samples from Ashwood Pumping  
Station  
and on 50 samples from Kinver Pumping  
Station.

- (3) Water from the Supplying stations does not have a plumbo-solvent action.
- (4) In the case of possible contamination in the event of burst mains, cleaning out reservoirs, etc., emergency chlorination is performed. Special apparatus and staff are available for this work. New mains are not brought into use until a sample of water from them is found to be satisfactory on testing.
- (5) A test taken by the Rural District Council on 11th June, 1958, showed no lead content in the drinking water.

**(c) City of Birmingham Water Department**

This water supplies about 50 houses in Iverley.

- (1) The water supply of the area has been satisfactory in quantity and quality.
- (2) Bacteriological examinations have been made by Birmingham of the water at Elan Aqueduct at Ludlow. Twenty-one out of twenty-five samples were "highly satisfactory" at Ludlow. Four of the twenty-five samples gave an unsatisfactory or suspicious result at Ludlow. The Public Health Department of Seisdon Rural District have taken samples of this water periodically at Iverley. Seisdon Rural District Council operate continuously a small chlorinating plant just inside their boundary for the water supplied to these fifty houses at Iverley. At the time of writing, the addition by ourselves of chlorine to the strength of 0.25 parts per million is producing a water which is "highly satisfactory" as shown by eleven tests out of twelve (taken at Iverley). One test gave a "suspicious" result.
- (3) The raw Elan water has a slight plumbo-solvent action which is neutralised with hydrated lime before entering the Aqueduct.

**(d) Bilston Corporation Water Undertaking**

- (1) The water supply of the area has been satisfactory
  - (a) in quantity (b) in quality. The laying of larger diameter distribution mains in Wombourn is in progress to improve the supply in that area.

- (2) Six samples for bacteriological tests were sent for testing. All six tests were in Class I (highly satisfactory).
- (3) The water supplied does not have plumbo-solvent action.
- (4) Chlorination is practised at the two sources of supply.
- (5) Four samples taken by our Rural District within Seisdon Rural District were "highly satisfactory".

(e) Further to the above mentioned four undertakings there are the private estates of **Patshull Hall**. The position here is as stated in the Annual Report of 1955.

(f) **Burnhill Green Village Borehole**

This is maintained by Seisdon Rural District Council. It supplies the western half of Burnhill Green Village. One sample of water was taken for bacteriological testing in 1957 and was "highly satisfactory". Chlorination is by a Wallace and Tiernan apparatus which is replenished every one or two weeks.

(g) **Envile and Bobbington**

An area of approximately four square miles in the western portion of Envile and Bobbington Parishes is still entirely without a pure mains water supply. It awaits an extension of the Bridgnorth R.D.C. Water Scheme. The origin of this water is to be from the Birmingham Water Undertaking and it is to be supplied via Bridgnorth R.D. Permission to advertise for tenders for the construction of the modified scheme has recently been given (July, 1958), and the scheme is expected to be completed by July, 1959.

(h) **Envile**

An area North East of the Bridgnorth—Envile Road is dealt with in Section C(I) under the title of the "Lutley Lane Scheme". It derives its supply from the S. Staffs. Water Undertaking.

(i) **Swimming Pool**

A large swimming pool in Kinver parish is tested chemically and bacteriologically through the season by our Dept. It gave uniformly excellent results and conformed to the Ministry of Health standards. It was tested for PH value, residual chlorine content, and bacteriological test each week. Of 24 bacteriological tests, all were "highly satisfactory" in 1957.

## Section D

### HOUSING

The representation of Category 5 Houses has gone ahead regularly through the year. The Rural District Council's policy of passing a Demolition Order on cottages and houses of Category 5 quality, and of not being hasty in requiring the actual demolition has led to an increasing number of such properties being reconditioned in 1957 by private persons for their own usage. Such cottages are often in very pleasant situations. The time is not far distant when we hope to be able to say that there are no houses suitable for demolition still in existence and occupied in our Rural District. The absence of a mains water supply to outlying cottages often still constitutes a major obstacle to their reconditioning.

The prosperity of the Black Country in recent years has seemed to attract families from other parts of England and Wales to live in caravans in our Rural District. Sometimes having several children, the living conditions in such caravans are bad, but the family income is increased and the equivalent of rental is not high. The Domestic Science which their children are taught in modern schools is not readily applicable to family life in such caravans. These cases also constitute an unfair demand on housing compared with the registered waiting longer-term residents of the Rural District.

All the requisitioned Ex-Army Huts at Wrottesley Park are regarded as being of Category 5 standard. As a hut becomes vacant, it is not then permitted to be occupied. At 18th July, 1958 there were

92 premises at Wrottesley Park
6 Ex-Army Huts at Kinver

—  
98 Total

The number of Seisdon families who are on the waiting list for houses, <i>i.e.</i> , not overspill families on 18/7/58 ..	839
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----

The number of families who have been housed in traditional dwellings between
------------------------------------------------------------------------------

1st January—31st December, 1957 ..
------------------------------------

99 re-lets
------------

171 new lettings
------------------

—  
Total 270

### IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

In 1957 fifty-seven houses were recommended for Improvement Grants and the amount of money involved in these Improvement Grants was £11,955. This impliesthat most of these 57 houses were saved from the necessity of being demolished as unfit for human habitation.

# **Section E**

## **INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD**

### **1. Slaughterhouses and Meat Supplies**

Meat inspection is shared between the three Public Health Inspectors. The vast majority of the inspections of meat are done at either Pattingham or Kinver. It is expected that the construction of a new Slaughterhouse by a private firm will be commenced in September, 1958 and will be completed by January, 1959. Planning permission has been granted, and this new construction, on the outskirts of Kinver, is intended to replace the present old slaughterhouse which is situated in the centre of the village.

## Section F

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

#### SCARLET FEVER

					<i>Cases Notified</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
1955	..	..	..	..	13	0
1956	..	..	..	..	12	0
1957	..	..	..	..	21	0

#### WHOOPING COUGH

			<i>Incidence</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
1951—131 cases	..	..		
1952—159	„	..	7.09 per 1,000	1
1953—78	„	..	3.3 „ „	0
1954—120	„	..	4.9 „ „	0
1955—31	„	..	1.2 „ „	0
1956—21	„	..	0.75 „ „	0
1957—104	„	..	3.4 „ „	0

Immunisation against Whooping Cough is available at Infant Welfare Clinics throughout the Rural District, and at the General Practitioners' Surgeries.

A stock of Whooping Cough vaccine is held at the Council Offices for distribution.

Numbers of children immunised against Whooping Cough have been as follows:—

			<i>Reinforcement Immunisation</i>
1953	Primary Immunisation	..	20
1954	Primary Immunisation	..	131
1955	Primary Immunisation	..	139
1956	Primary Immunisation	..	183
1957	Primary Immunisation	..	167

#### MEASLES

<i>Year</i>			<i>Cases Notified</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
1952	..	..	110	0
1953	..	..	423	0
1954	..	..	12	0
1955	..	..	418	1
1956	..	..	21	0
1957	..	..	410	0

#### DIPHTHERIA

No case of Diphtheria occurred in the year. There has not been one case of Diphtheria reported in Seisdon Rural District in the whole of the last seven years. Immunisation against Diphtheria is available at Clinics throughout the Rural District, and also at the General Practitioners' Surgeries.

One boy aged 7 years was admitted from Kinver to an Isolation Hospital in September, 1957, as a suspected case of Diphtheria. Investigations in Hospital proved this not to be Diphtheria, and he made a good recovery.

Numbers of children immunised against Diphtheria have been as follows:—

	Age	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Primary Imms. ..	0- 4	169	226	184	371	419
Primary Imms. ..	5-14	65	72	57	68	49
Reinforcement Imms. ..	0- 4	11	{ 455	7	10	12
Reinforcement Imms. ..	5-14	208		405	315	246
<b>TOTAL ..</b>		<b>453</b>	<b>753</b>	<b>653</b>	<b>764</b>	<b>726</b>

Newspaper advertisements were made in March, 1957, to give notice of times and places at which immunisation against Diphtheria is available at Clinics within the Rural District. Posters advising on Diphtheria immunisation were also distributed to Schools and to Parish Councils, etc.

### INFANTILE PARALYSIS (Poliomyelitis)

During 19 years of available records there have been 23 cases of Poliomyelitis, and one death.

Date	Parish	Sex	Age	
21/2/57	Codsall ..	.. Male	6	Paralytic, confirmed
26/7/57	Lower Penn	.. Male	10	Paralytic, confirmed
16/8/57	Lower Penn	.. Male	10	Non-Paralytic, confirmed
10/9/57	Wombourne	.. Male	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	Paralytic, confirmed
24/9/57	Wombourne	.. Male	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	Non-Paralytic, confirmed

Four out of these five cases were severe, and one of the cases died after an illness of 3-4 days duration. Two of the other cases have residual severe and extensive degrees of paralysis one year later.

It is believed that about 600 children living within the Rural District were vaccinated against Poliomyelitis during 1957.

### FOOD POISONING—SALMONELLA INFECTION, ETC.

Cases occurred as follows:—

7/3/57	Wombourne	..	Male	1 year	Salmonella Heidelberg
7/6/57	Wombourne	..	Male	24 years	Sal. Typhi-murium
20/7/57	Kinver	..		Ten school children and one teacher. Bacteriological agent not known.	

## DYSENTERY

No cases notified in 1957.

## VENEREAL DISEASE

Three deaths, in three males who were aged between 59 and 72 years, were attributed by the Registrar General to Syphilis. These deaths resulted from a late effect of Syphilis on the heart and large arteries. The last similar instance was in 1953, in which year one case occurred.

## INFLUENZA

Epidemic Influenza appeared in Seisdon Rural District in September, 1957, and spread rapidly according to the common pattern. School children of age 8-11 were first affected, and the illness spread to older and younger children about ten days later, and subsequently to adults. Its progress was particularly studied in Wombourne V.P. (C. of E.) School, and 5-6 weeks elapsed before the epidemic subsided in that School. The epidemic lasted from 14th September to 25th October. Only about 1 in 9 of all the school children escaped the illness.

On 4th October, 1957, at the peak of the epidemic, 47% of the school children were absent at Wombourne V.P. (C. of E.) School.

## MENINGITIS

A child aged two years, died in Hospital from Pneumococcal Meningitis plus Pneumonia.

## EPIDEMIC VOMITING DISEASE

The Rural District occasionally experienced small outbreaks of this disease. It is more easily recognised when there is one village and one school involved.

Trysull and Kinver have experienced it in recent months. Usually by the third day the children are well and back at school. All bacteriological tests were negative.

## SMALLPOX : Vaccination against Smallpox

### *Initial Vaccinations*

Under one year .. .. .. ..	271
Age group 1 - 4 .. .. .. ..	34
Age group 5 - 14 .. .. .. ..	7
Age group 15 and over .. .. .. ..	2
	—
	314
	—

### *Re-vaccinations*

Age group 1 - 4 .. .. ..	4
Age group 5 - 14 .. .. ..	3
Age group 15 and over .. .. ..	34
	—
	41
	—

## CASES ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL

The total number of cases admitted to Hospital for Infectious Diseases was 16.

2 cases Scarlet Fever to Moxley Hospital.

3 cases Measles to Moxley Hospital.

4 cases Pneumonia : 1 case to Wolverhampton Isolation Hospital.

1 case to New Cross Hospital.

1 case to Wolverhampton Royal Hospital.

1 case to Cosford Hospital.

1 case Food Poisoning to Hayley Green Hospital.

1 case Meningococcal Meningitis to Wolverhampton Royal Hospital.

3 cases Poliomyelitis (Paralytic) : 2 cases to Little Bromwich Hospital.

1 case to Moxley Hospital.

2 cases Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic) : 1 case to Royal Hospital.

1 case to Hayley Green Hospital.

## SWABS & SPECIMENS submitted to the Public Health Laboratory:

Nose and Throat	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Sputa	..	..	..	..	..	..	86
Faeces	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
Gastric Contents	..	..	..	..	..	..	4

The great majority of the sputa were submitted by the Tuberculosis Officer.

## GENERAL MEASURES

School notifications of infectious disease are carefully scrutinised and made prompt use of for the purpose of guidance and location.

Terminal disinfection of premises and articles by means of formaldehyde lamps and disinfectant fluids is carried out in necessary cases.

## TUBERCULOSIS

The Medical Officer of Health visits all cases where environmental home conditions are poor, and investigation and advice as appropriate is given. Appreciation is here recorded of the co-operation and help given by the Housing Committee of Seisdon Rural District Council in giving priority to the housing recommendations of the M.O.H. in cases of Tuberculosis. This priority consists in awarding a variable number of housing points according to whether the case is an open sputum positive case or not, and takes account also of the number and condition of the children.

Mass X-Ray is available (without previous appointment) at New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton every Monday morning at 9.30 a.m. and at Priory Road, Dudley on certain Friday afternoons.

Twenty-seven people suffering from Tuberculosis of the lungs moved into houses in Seisdon Rural District during the year. This is thirteen more than the number of new cases originating in the Rural District itself. Many of these cases are quiescent, and most of them come from the Black Country.

### Total Number of Cases on Register

	1954	At 31/12/1955	At 31/12/1956	At 31/12/1957
Pulmonary—Male .. ..	67	75	88	95
Pulmonary—Female .. ..	49	55	63	82
Non-Pulmonary—Male .. ..	11	10	9	10
Non-Pulmonary—Female .. ..	13	9	11	13
<b>TOTAL ..</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>200</b>
Number for 1,000 population (Seisdon) .. ..	5.74	5.68	6.1	6.1
Average for Staffs. C.C. per 1,000 population .. ..	9.6	9.7	9.9	
Number of Deaths of Seisdon Residents (Tuberculosis) .. ..	1	Nil	4	3

### Localisation of Tuberculosis in New Cases Notified in 1956

	1956 Males	1956 Females	1956 Total	1957 Males	1957 Females	1957 Total
Lungs .. ..	12	4	16	7	7	14
Bone, Lumbar Spine .. ..	-	1	1	-	1	1
Meninges .. ..	-	1	1	-	1	1
	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>16</b>

## TUBERCULOSIS—INCIDENCE RATE

	Respiratory TB.		Non-Respiratory TB.	
	Average 1953—55	1956	1953—55	1956
Staffs. C.C. ..	83	63	10	6
Seisdon R.D. ..		46		6.6

(All per 100,000 persons).

[Compare Gateshead .. .. 216 (1956)  
W. Suffolk .. .. 22 (1956) ]

### Death Rates

	Eng. & Wales 1954	Eng. & Wales 1955	Eng. & Wales 1956	Eng. & Wales 1957	Seis- don 1956	Seis- don 1957	Staffs. C.C. 1956
Deaths from Tuberculosis of the Lungs .. ..					4	3	
Deaths from other Tuberculosis Diseases .. ..					Nil	Nil	
Tuberculosis Death Rate (Respiratory) : per million of population .. ..	160	131	109	95	142	99	120
Tuberculosis Death Rate (Non-Respiratory) TB.) : per million of population ..	19	15	12	12	Nil	Nil	10
			17% better than 1955				

Of the three deaths from respiratory tuberculosis one case had lived in the Rural District since 1939 and another case had transferred into the Rural District in 1954 as an already diagnosed case. The third case had transferred into the Rural District as an already diagnosed case in 1955.

## TUBERCULOSIS

AGE PERIODS	TRANSFERS INTO R.D.C.												DEATHS		
	NEW CASES						PULMONARY						Non-pulmonary		
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		M	M	F
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	M	F	
0—5 years	..	1													
5—10 "	..	1				1									
10—15 "	..					1									
15—20 "	..														
20—25 "	..	2						4	4		1				
25—30 "	..					1				4	10				
30—35 "	..					1	3			1	2				
35—40 "	..					1						1			
40—45 "	..					1	1					1			
45—50 "	..					1									
50—55 "	..							1				1			
55—60 "	..											1			
60—65 "	..									1					
65 years and over															
TOTALS FOR 1957		7	7					11	16	1	1	3	—	—	Population
TOTALS FOR 1954		8						2					M and F		
TOTALS FOR 1955		13											1	0	24,370
TOTALS FOR 1956		16											3	0	26,220
TOTALS FOR 1957		14											2	1	28,070
													2	3	30,270

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE  
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
for the year 1957**

*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Seisdon Rural District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my first Annual Report upon the work of your Public Health Inspectors.

Taking up office midway through the year under review, my first concerns were the need for a much higher standard of hygiene at food premises, for the achievement of 100% meat inspection, and for improvement in the drainage and sewage disposal in the unsewered parts of the district. With the limited staff available during the first half of the year much of Mr. Robinson's time was taken up by the demands of meat inspection but to the consequent exclusion of other equally important duties. The additional appointment of Mr. Kelly in October enabled a start to be made on more comprehensive inspections of food premises, etc., and I am confident that this more frequent visiting will produce the desired improvements.

New legislation in the form of the Rent Act, 1957, involved a demand for certificates of disrepair and brought with it some new problems of interpretation. This Act should improve the standard of maintenance of the better class houses but I do not think that its provisions will interest the owners of low standard property. The Housing Act, 1957, was a consolidation of most of the previous enactments relating to housing.

I would like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for their confidence in my appointment, to express my appreciation to Dr. Kennedy and Mr. Baskett for their help and to other Officials for their co-operation, and my thanks to all members of the Public Health staff for their able assistance.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

E. H. ROBERTS,

*Chief Public Health Inspector.*

July, 1958.

## SUMMARY OF GENERAL SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

Total Inspections .. .. .. .. ..	3,413
Number of complaints received .. .. .. .. ..	632
Informal Notices served .. .. .. .. ..	71
Statutory Notices served .. .. .. .. ..	50
Informal Notices complied .. .. .. .. ..	52
Statutory Notices complied .. .. .. .. ..	24

### ROUTINE INSPECTIONS MADE

#### Housing

Houses inspected—Primary .. .. .. .. ..	247
—Re-inspection .. .. .. .. ..	401

#### Factories

Factories—Mechanical Power .. .. .. .. ..	17
—No Mechanical Power .. .. .. .. ..	6

#### Food Premises

Bakehouses .. .. .. .. ..	1
Butchers' Shops .. .. .. .. ..	23
Fish Shops .. .. .. .. ..	8
Slaughterhouses .. .. .. .. ..	27
Ice Cream Premises .. .. .. .. ..	20
Milk Shops .. .. .. .. ..	2
Other Food Premises .. .. .. .. ..	76

#### Meat and Food Inspections

Meat and Food Inspections .. .. .. .. ..	673
Samples of Water taken .. .. .. .. ..	162
,, „ Ice Cream taken .. .. .. .. ..	10

#### Other Routine Visits of Inspection

Accumulations .. .. .. .. ..	5
Animals kept .. .. .. .. ..	3
Camping Grounds .. .. .. .. ..	22
Cleansing .. .. .. .. ..	346
Dirty Premises .. .. .. .. ..	10
Disinfections .. .. .. .. ..	5
Disinfestations .. .. .. .. ..	3
Drainage .. .. .. .. ..	581
Farms .. .. .. .. ..	2
Infectious Diseases .. .. .. .. ..	43
Petroleum Storage .. .. .. .. ..	94
Piggeries .. .. .. .. ..	18
Refuse Receptacles .. .. .. .. ..	20

Rent Act ..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Rodent Control ..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Schools ..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Shop Acts ..	..	..	..	..	..	109
Smoke ..	..	..	..	..	..	33
Swimming Pool ..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Tents, Vans, Sheds ..	..	..	..	..	..	257
Water Supply ..	..	..	..	..	..	40
Verminous Premises ..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Miscellaneous ..	..	..	..	..	..	89

## COMPLAINTS

Six hundred and thirty two complaints received by the Department during the year were concerned as follows:—

Housing Defects ..	57	Rats and Mice ..	185
Obstructed Drains ..	194	Other pests ..	15
Refuse Collection ..	108	Miscellaneous ..	73

Only the complaints relating to Housing Defects required the service of Notices; the remainder were remedied by one or other of the services employed or provided by the Council.

## HOUSING DEFECTS

71 Informal Notices and 50 Statutory Notices were served during the year under the Housing and Public Health Acts requiring repairs to houses, improvements to water supplies and drainage, and conversions of privies and pail closets to the water carriage system.

These notices concerned 113 houses which were sited in the following Parishes:—

Bobbington ..	..	4	Lower Penn ..	..	3
Codsall ..	..	23	Pattingham ..	..	30
Envile ..	..	4	Swindon ..	..	8
Himley ..	..	8	Wombourne ..	..	9
Kinver ..	..	13	Wrottesley ..	..	11

As a result of these and similar notices served during previous years repairs and improvements were effected at 51 houses which were sited as follows:—

Bobbington ..	..	3	Kinver ..	..	6
Codsall ..	..	6	Pattingham ..	..	9
Envile ..	..	1	Wombourne ..	..	16
Himley ..	..	6	Wrottesley ..	..	3
Lower Penn ..		1			

### **Summary of Repairs and Improvements Effected:**

Repairs to roofs, walls, and external structures ..	33
Internal repairs to walls, ceilings and floors ..	28
Repairs to doors, windows, and other internal fittings ..	2
Dampness remedied .. .. .. ..	2
Repair and improvement to water supplies ..	3
Repair and improvement to drainage systems ..	22
Privy middens abolished .. .. .. ..	1
Pail closets abolished .. .. .. ..	15
Water closets provided .. .. .. ..	15

### **HOUSING ACT, 1957, SECTION 16**

In continuation of the housing programme 23 individual unfit houses not capable of repair at a reasonable cost were represented to the Council and action taken as follows:—

Number of Demolition Orders made .. ..	16
Number of undertakings accepted from owners that houses would not be re-let for human habitation until made fit .. .. .. ..	2
Number of Closing Orders made .. .. ..	5
The houses concerned were situated in the following Parishes:	
Bobbington .. .. 2	Pattingham .. .. 4
Codsall .. .. 1	Wombourne .. .. 4
Envile .. .. 2	Wrottesley .. .. 7
Kinver .. .. 3	

### **RENT ACT, 1957**

This Act came into operation in July and up to the end of the year 9 applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received. These were dealt with as follows:—

Number of applications received .. .. ..	9
Number of undertakings accepted from Landlords to carry out work .. .. .. ..	1
Number of undertakings from Landlords refused ..	4
Number of Certificates of Disrepair issued ..	8

## MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

A total of 673 visits were made in connection with the inspection of meat and other foods.

### Meat Inspection

There are four licenced private slaughterhouses in the Seisdon Rural District. These are situated in the parishes of Codsall, Kinver, Pattingham and Wrottesley.

A full inspection of all carcases and organs has only been possible by your Inspectors making many visits during evening times and weekends.

All condemned meat and organs are liberally stained with green dye, but it is an unhappy reflection that not even this staining is required by law. Compulsory sterilisation must surely be the only adequate safeguard for meat which is unfit for human consumption.

The following table gives the number of animals slaughtered and percentages of numbers affected with disease. It is significant that the percentage of animals affected with Tuberculosis is little more than half of those found affected in the previous year, and the eradication of Bovine Tuberculosis is approaching reality.

**CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED  
IN WHOLE OR IN PART**

	Cattle Exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	1384	8	63	4475	1279	—
Number inspected ..	1384	8	63	4475	1279	—
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci :</b> Whole carcases condemned .. ..	1	—	—	1	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .. ..	296	—	—	426	135	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ..	21.2	—	—	9.5	10.5	—
<b>Tuberculosis only:</b> Whole carcases condemned .. ..	2	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .. ..	79	—	—	—	24	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis .. ..	5.8	—	—	—	1.8	—
<b>Cysticercosis:</b> Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .. ..	4	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration .. .. ..	1	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and Totally condemned .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—

## ICE CREAM

68 premises are registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the storage and sale of Ice Cream.

Temperature tests were frequently carried out to ensure that the temperature of the refrigerator was being kept within the requirements of the Ice Cream Regulations (*i.e.*, that the product must be kept at a temperature below 28° Fah.). In every case conditions were satisfactory.

10 samples were taken for bacteriological examination. Results were as follows:—

GRADES				Total
1	2	3	4	
10	—	—	—	10

Analysed according to manufacturers:—

Manufacturer	No. of Retailers selling in this area	Grade				Total
		1	2	3	4	
“A”	28	2	—	—	—	2
“B”	27	1	—	—	—	1
“C”	6	1	—	—	—	1
“D”	3	2	—	—	—	2
“E”	1	1	—	—	—	1
“F”	2	1	—	—	—	1
“G”	1	2	—	—	—	2
	68	10	—	—	—	10

The recommendations of the Laboratory are that the results should be judged on a series of samples rather than on any single sample and that over a six-monthly period 50% of a vendor's samples should fall into Grade 1, 80% into Grades 1 or 2, not more than 20% into Grade 3, and none into Grade 4.

Upon this interpretation the results of samples taken within the district are very satisfactory.

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION OF SAMPLES OF MILK TAKEN IN THE

RURAL DISTRICT DURING 1957

No. of Samples	Methylen Blue Test		Phosphatase Test		Turbidity Test		Tubercle-bacilli Test	
	Pass	Fail	Pos.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.
Tuberculin Tested ..	8	4	2	—	—	—	—	2
T.T. Farm Bottled ..	10	9	1	—	—	—	—	—
T.T. Pasteurised ..	58	58	—	—	58	—	—	—
Pasteurised ..	49	48	1	—	49	—	—	—
Sterilised .. ..	..	39	—	—	—	—	39	—

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

We are indebted to the County Public Health Department for the following information regarding samples taken for examination during 1957.

### Milk

Milk Pasteurised .. ..	22
Milk Sterilised .. ..	23
Milk T.T. .. ..	5
Milk T.T. Pasteurised ..	22
Milk T.T. Channel Island ..	11
	—
	<i>83 All Genuine.</i>
	—

### General Foods

Number of samples taken ..	41
Number of samples genuine ..	38
Number of samples adulterated	3

### Classification of General Foods

Fruit Bonbons	Caramel dessert powder
Custard Powder	Lard
Prunes in syrup	Cornish Pilchards in Tomato
Butterscotch	Puffed Wheat
Marzipan	Lemon Jelly Marmalade
Margarine (10% Butter)	Buttered Brazils
Salmon	Sweet Peanuts
Milk Chocolate Wholemeal Biscuits	Pork Luncheon Meat
Raspberry Flavour Jelly	French Mustard
Apricot Jam	Whipped Cream
Whisky (2 samples)	Ice Cream
Rum (2 samples)	Pork Sausage cont. pres. (2 samples)
Gin	Instant Chocolate
Currie Powder	Sparkling Glucose Drink (2 samples)
Butter	Lime Juice Cordial
Crabmeat	Halibut Liver Oil Capsules B.P.
Chicken Pie	Vin Rose
Pure Lard	Vapomenth Pastilles
Toothing Powder	

### **Particulars of Adulterated Samples**

(a)—Pork Sausage cont. pres.—Formal—deficient in meat content.

(b)—Sparkling Glucose Drink—Formal—contained not more than  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the amount of Sodium Benzoate claimed.

(c)—Sparkling Glucose Drink—Informal—contained 6.3 fl. oz. and not 25 fl. oz. as stated. Contained 0.007% Sodium Benzoate instead of 0.03%

- (a) Formula altered to give correct meat content.
- (b) Old stock withdrawn from sale.
- (c) do.

### **MOVEABLE DWELLINGS**

Number of licenced sites .. .. ..	12
Number of dwellings on licenced sites ..	256
Number of individual licenced dwellings	61

These statistics indicate the extent of the desire for this type of habitation within the Rural District, and trouble is experienced by the use of unlicenced sites. Enforcement action had to be taken under the Town and Country Planning Act in some cases.

22 visits were made to Camping Grounds and 257 to individual moveable dwellings.

### **PEST CONTROL**

The following table shows the work carried out by the Council's Rodent Operator:—

Type of Premises	No. of visits	Estimated kill	Bodies found
Business ..	41	119	62
Private ..	471	567	187
Council ..	321	402	124
<b>TOTAL ..</b>	<b>833</b>	<b>1088</b>	<b>373</b>

In addition to the above, 758 premises were visited on survey.

The Council properties concerned are the nine sewage works and four tips in operation during the year. These were all treated at regular intervals, emphasis being on keeping the refuse tips as clear as possible. Minor infestations were dealt with at the outlying tips but it is significant that the largest tip at Botterham caused far less concern. This emphasises the value of proper and efficient covering of refuse at a tip where ample covering material is available on the site.

No infestations have been found in the Council's sewers for many years and test-baiting was therefore only carried out in 10% of the manholes. It is very encouraging to report that this work once again gave completely negative results.

Fly infestation was troublesome at one small tip unfortunately sited near to two houses and without suitable covering material on the site. Regular tip dressing was carried out to check the nuisance.

Your Operator has also dealt with infestations of other insect pests, and wasps nests.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING

### Statistics

No. of cesspools emptied .. ..	1,988
No. of dustbins emptied .. ..	385,770
No. of pans emptied .. ..	35,060
No. of loads (all materials) .. ..	8,624

### Salvage

Limitations on the quantity of waste paper that would be accepted by the mills remained in force throughout the year. The maximum income was derived by the baling of as much newspaper as was possible within the limitation.

A total of  $16\frac{1}{2}$  tons of waste paper was baled and this produced an income of £135.

$49\frac{1}{2}$  tons of scrap metal and rags were salvaged from refuse and an income of £175 derived.

Total income from salvage during the year : £310.

### Refuse Collection and Disposal

Six vehicles and teams were employed on refuse collection throughout the district, and 30 complete rounds recorded. The frequency of refuse collection averaged once in 12 days over the period.

Refuse was disposed of by controlled tipping at one central and three outlying tips.

## Cesspool Emptying and Pans

Two vehicles and teams were employed in these services, one each on cesspool emptying and pan closet emptying. Towards the end of the year the demands for cesspool emptying were becoming more than could be coped with by the existing vehicle.

## General

The following vehicles operated in the Cleansing Service during the year:—

Two Dennis Paxit Refuse Collectors .. ..	18 cu. yds.
Two Dennis Side Loading Refuse Collectors .. ..	11 cu. yds.
Two Morris Commercial Refuse Collectors .. ..	7 cu. yds.
One Karrier Cesspool Emptier .. ..	650 gallons
One Dennis Cesspool Emptier (Pans) .. ..	800 gallons
One Ski-Hi Mechanical Shovel	
One Morris Commercial Tipping Truck .. ..	3 tons
One Private Contractor's Vehicle (engaged on refuse collection).	

The complement of men consisted of 9 drivers, 28 loaders, and one tip man.

During the year 643 man-days were lost due to sickness. This was equivalent to operating throughout the whole year with almost 3 men short.

## Dustbin Scheme

The Council have adopted Section 75 (3) of the Public Health Act, 1936, and have undertaken to supply and maintain dustbins for the reception of house refuse. The annual charge is at present 7/6d. per bin.

The scheme has been in operation since 1954 and the following statistics show the progress made:—

No. of bins issued prior to 1957 .. ..	835
No. of bins issued during 1957 .. ..	437
Total number of bins issued .. ..	1,272

## Litter

The number of litter baskets has steadily been increased during the year to combat the litter menace. In spite of the wilful damage which is done in places to baskets, chains and locks, I consider that the baskets do perform a very necessary service.

Litter clearance has again been regularly carried out on the commons and in certain villages.

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

The following tables are similar to those supplied to the Ministry of Labour and National Service and give details of inspections of Factories and defects found:—

### 1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	No. on Register	No. of		Occupiers prosecuted
		In-spections	Written Notices	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ..	6	6	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	21	17	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) .. ..	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL .. ..</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>23</b>	—	—

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	
	Found	Remedied	Referred			
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector		
Want of cleanliness (S.1.) ..	—	—	—	—	—	
Overcrowding (S.2.) ..	—	—	—	—	—	
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.) ..	—	—	—	—	—	
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4.) ..	—	—	—	—	—	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.) ..	—	—	—	—	—	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.) ..						
(a) insufficient	—	—	—	—	—	
(b) unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—	
(c) not separate sexes ..	—	—	—	—	—	
Other offences (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—	
<b>TOTAL ..</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	







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